

Weldon Spring Long-Term Stewardship Plan

Public Workshop Notes

August 28, 2002

Opening

Pam Thompson, U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Weldon Spring Site Remedial Action Project Manager made opening comments, welcomed everyone, and introduced members of the DOE, Weldon Spring Citizens Commission, and others that were present.

Introduction

Dave Geiser, Director of Office of Long-Term Stewardship, DOE Headquarters

1. What are we trying to accomplish tonight?
 - a. Input on the Long-Term Stewardship Plan. What citizens want to see that is not there. What needs to be changed so it reflects the public's concerns. We need clear, constructive comments.
 - b. Approach and schedule. DOE is abandoning the current schedule and would like input on the new proposed schedule when we convene after the breakout sessions.
2. Where we are with the Long-Term Stewardship Plan?
 - a. We have received early criticism of the plan from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) and the Weldon Spring Citizens Commission. This is DOE's current plan. We did not ask for input from MDNR or any other organization. In the end, hopefully, we will have support from everyone.
 - b. The Weldon Spring Citizens Commission had three major issues that Geiser addressed:
 - 1) The current plan is a major step backward. Omitting the public participation information was a major omission on DOE's part and we will rectify this.
 - 2) Institutional Controls. Geiser felt DOE had come a long way over the last plan, which had hypothetical issues. He referred the audience to three tables in the plan: 2.3, 2.12, and 3.7 for institutional control information.
 - 3) Potential for terrorist threat. DOE needs to address it in the stewardship plan. Geiser said we would begin to address it at this workshop. It is a weak area, not because DOE knows what to do and we just didn't write it, but because we need your help addressing which threats the citizens are concerned about.
 - c. DOE did make some specific improvements in this plan:
 - 1) Institutional controls were an area we improved.
 - 2) There is more detailed information included about the disposal system and the leachate collection system.
 - 3) The description of the inspection items is well detailed.
 - 4) There is additional information on levels of groundwater contaminants.
 - 5) Graphical presentations are much better.
3. Path forward for getting this plan completed.
 - a. DOE is glad that you are not satisfied with where we are. There are holes in the plan. That is why we are here. The day that the DOE stops asking for public input is the day you should start worrying. We are here tonight to ask you for your input.
 - b. Proposed schedule. If this schedule is too aggressive or too slow, let DOE know.
 - September 10 – Comments due
 - October 10 – Initial comment response
 - October – Work session (Scope dependent upon comment responses)
 - November – Work session
 - December – Work session, If needed

January '03 – Revised draft Long-Term Stewardship Plan. Proposed plan for groundwater.

Purpose, Goals, and Format of Workshop

Ray Plieness, Deputy Manager, DOE Grand Junction Office.

1. Purpose
 - a. Continue discussions with the public on the status and plans for transition to the Long-Term Stewardship Program
 - b. Obtain public and regulator input on draft Long-Term Stewardship Plan
 - c. Ensure public concerns are addressed in Long-Term Stewardship Plan
2. Goals
 - a. Obtain public understanding of site status and remaining contamination
 - b. Discuss how *Long-Term Stewardship Plan* addresses monitoring and maintenance
 - c. Discuss the best approach for continuing public interactions
3. Format
 - a. Audience was separated into three groups; each group participated in three breakout sessions of approximately 30 minutes each. Breakout session topics included:
 - 1) Land Use and Institutional Controls
 - 2) Monitoring and Maintenance
 - 3) Communications
 - b. Handouts for each session were included in a colored folder given to each attendee
 - c. Each group selected a spokesperson for the session summary
 - d. In each session, a Weldon Spring expert was available to provide background and status information and a Long-Term Stewardship person was available to explain how the session topic is addressed in the plan
 - e. Each session was open for discussion; questions and comments were recorded on a flipchart.
 - f. After all three sessions, the group spokesperson provided the entire audience with the main concerns or questions from that group

Group Spokespersons

The following were selected as group spokespersons:

- a. Dan McKeel
- b. Shannon Dougherty
- c. Wendee Ryan

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